1. (Amended) A control element for a nuclear reactor comprising:

a plurality of absorber rods (7) each absorber rod (7) comprising at least an inner absorber enclosure (10), an outer absorber enclosure (13) and a first middle absorber enclosure (11), wherein the absorber enclosures are fitted and nested into each other and concentric in their relationship;

D5

a predetermined spacing between each of the absorber enclosures surrounding and adjacent to one another; and

each absorber rod movable within the control element;

an absorber (8) contained only within the inner absorber enclosure (10);

wherein, in the event of expansion of the absorber, a respective absorber enclosure is removable from a starting position and a mechanical resistance is formed for compressing and containing the absorber.

D6

5. (Amended) The control element according to claim 1, wherein dimensions of the inner absorber enclosure are selected in such a way that the inner absorber enclosure receives sintered absorber tablets.